

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 06230 311006Z

12

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00

INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-01 IO-03 SAM-01

RSC-01 /042 W

----- 050762

O P 310935Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4384

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 6230

LIMDIS

ISLAMABAD FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IS

SUBJECT: NEW COALITION

1. SUMMARY: NEW COALITION GOVT, APPROVED BY KNESSET
OCT 30, PROVIDES PM RABIN WITH MORE COMFORTABLE
PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY, DESPITE FAILURE OF CITIZENS
RIGHTS MOVEMENT (CRM) TO JOIN GOVT AND DECLARATION
BY TWO NATIONAL RELITIOUS PARTY KNEESSET MEMBERS NOT TO BE
BOUND BY COALITION DISCIPLINE. WHILE NEW COALITION AGREEMENT
ONLY PAPERS OVER SHARP POLITICAL DIFFERENCES WITHIN AND BETWEEN
MAJOR PARTIES, PARTICULARLY OVER WEST BANK
POLICY AND RELIGIOUS ISSUES, OUR INITIAL ASSESSMENT
IS THAT NEW COALITION ENHANCES PROSPECTS FOR
POLITICAL STABILITY IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEL AV 06230 311006Z

2. KNESSET OCT 30 APPROVED BY VOTE OF 59 IN FAVOR, 52 OPPOSED AND THREE ABSTENTIONS NEW COALITION GOVT INCLUDING LABOR-MAPAM ALIGNMENT, INDEPDENT LIBERAL PARTY (ILP) AND NATIONAL RELIGIOUS PARTY (NRP). CITIZENS RIGHTS MOVEMENT (CRM) AT LAST MOMENT DECIDED NOT TO JOIN NEW COALITION.

3. AS YOUTH WING OF NRP, WITH TWO KNESSET MEMBERS (BEN MEIR, HAMMER) HAS DECLARED THAT IT MAY NOT BE BOUND BY COALITION DISCIPLINE, NEW COALITION HAS 66 VOTES IN 120 MEMBER KNESSET (ALIGNMENT 54, ILP 4, NRP 8 OF 10 KNESSET MEMBERS), IN CONTRAST TO 61 VOTES REPRESENTED IN BY PRESVIOUS COLATION.

4. NRP MINISTERS IN NEW CABINET INCLUDE YOSEF BURG (INTERIOR), YITZHAK RAFAEL (RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS), AND MICHAEL HAZANI (SOCIAL WELFARE), ALL OF WHOM HELDSAME POSTS IN GOLDAMEIR GOVERNMENT.

5. COMMENT: ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW COALITION REPRESENTS SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL ACHIEVEMENT FOR PM RABIN, DESPITE REFUSAL OF CRM TO CONTINUE IN NEW COALITION. HE HAS STRENGTHENED HIS PERSONAL LEADERSHIP AND HAS BROADENED THE PARLIAMENTARY BASIS OF HIS GOVT. IN RESTORING NRP TO ITS TRADITIONAL PARTNERSHIP WITH LABOR PARTY, HE HAS WEAKENED LIKUD OPPOSITION, WHICH HAD SOUGHT TO FOREGE PERMANENT OPPOSITION BLOC WITH NRP IN EFFORT TO TOPPLE RABIN GOVT.

6. BROADENED PARLIAMENTARY BASE OF NEW COALITION CERTAINLY RELIEVES RABIN GOVERNMENT OF SOME OF PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES IN MUSTERING MAJORITY IN KNESSET VOTES. IT ASSURES HIM OF STRONGER KNESSET SUPPORT IN DEALING WITH RANGE OF ACUTE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS FACING NATION, PARTICULARLY AS LIKUD CANNOT COUNT ON SUPPORT FROM OTHER OPPOSITION PARTIES, I.E. CRM (3 VOTES), MOKED (1 VOTE), RAKAH (4 VOTES), ON PRACTICALLY ALL ISSUES. ON HIGHLY DIVISIVE RELIGIOUS ISSUE CONCERNING CONVERSIONS, NEW COALITION PROVIDES ONE-YEAR MORATORIUM IN FINDING SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO COALITION PARTNERS.

7. NRP CABINET MEMBERS LIKELY TO PRESS FOR NEW SETTLEMENTS IN JUDEA AND SAMARIA, ALTHOUGH THEY ARE COMMITTED TO ABIDE BY SETTLEMENT DECISIONS APPROVED BY CABINET. ON MORE LONG-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TEL AV 06230 311006Z

TERM PROBLEM OF AGREEMENT WITH JORDAN, THIS IS ISSUE WHICH DIVIDES ALL MAJOR PARTIES. WHILE RABIN IS PLEDGED TO NEW ELECTION BEFORE SIGNING AN AGREEMENT WITH JORDAN INVOLVING WEST BANK TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS, A VARIETY OF EXTERNAL OR INTERNAL POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS COULD LEAD TO NEW ELECTION BEFORE SUCH NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT GET UNDERWAY.

8. NEW COALITION ONLY PAPERS OVER SHARP DIFFERENCES BETWEEN

AND WITHIN MAJOR PARTIES ON RELIGIOUS, SOCIAL AND FOREIGN POLICY
ISSUES. ON BALANCE, HOWEVER, OUR INITIAL ASSESSMENT IS THAT
NEW COALITION ENHANCES PROSPECT OF INTERNAL POLITICAL STABILITY,
AT LEAST IN NEAR FUTURE, AND RABIN'S ABILITY, PARTICULARLY IN
DOMESTIC FIELD, TO COPE WITH ISRAEL'S PRESSING PROBLEMS.
KEATING

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COALITION GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL PARTIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TELAV06230
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740311-0250
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974101/aaaaaajb.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <10 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW COALITION
TAGS: PINT, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005